



DATE: December 30, 2014

TO: MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL

FROM: DAVE ZUMETA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RE: PREPARATION FOR JANUARY 14, 2015 MFRC MEETING

In preparation for the January 14, 2015 meeting of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC), attached are the following materials (those related to action items are in **bold**):

1. This cover memo.
2. **Draft minutes for the November 12, 2014 MFRC meeting.**
3. **Draft agenda for the January 14, 2015 MFRC meeting.**
4. Committee reports.
5. Potential competitiveness report recommendations for MFRC staff to pursue.

Meeting Logistics

The MFRC will meet on January 14, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Stine Room at the **Cloquet Forestry Center** located at 175 University Road in Cloquet, Minnesota.

From I-35, take the Highway 210 exit (adjacent to the Black Bear Casino), and go west 2.7 miles. Turn right on Highway 5 (a sign for the Forestry Center will guide you) and follow it north for 2.7 miles. The entrance to the Cloquet Forestry Center is on your left. For more information about Cloquet Forestry Center, call 218/726-6400, <http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu>

Meeting Agenda

Committee of the Whole: Summary of the December 10-11 Forest Futures Meeting and Major recommendations from the Primary Forest Products Industry Global Competitiveness Report—Kathleen Preece will summarize results of the December 10-11 Forest Futures Meeting that was convened by the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership, which she serves as Executive Director. Bob Stine will facilitate a conversation about eight of the 27 recommendations from the Work Group members (see attachment 5, entitled “Potential competitiveness report recommendations for MFRC staff to pursue.” ***It is important that Council members review this two-page attachment prior to the meeting.*** Dave Zumeta and Calder Hibbard will serve as resource people for this discussion, as will several Council members

who served on either the Steering Committee (Forrest Boe, Gene Merriam) or Work Group (Wayne Brandt, Alan Ek).

DNR Division of Forestry and MFRC legislative agenda for the 2015 legislative session –

Forrest Boe will provide a brief overview of the DNR Division of Forestry legislative agenda for the 2015 legislative agenda. Dave Zumeta will summarize the MFRC budget restoration/change level request that the DNR is presenting to the Governor for inclusion in his recommended budget for the 2016-2017 biennium.

Characterizing forest distribution at a watershed scale – Dave Parent will introduce Rob Slesak, MFRC Site-level Program Manager, and Jennifer Corcoran, Research Analyst, Guideline Monitoring Program, DNR Division of Forestry. Rob and Jennifer will describe the approach and methods being developed to quantify disturbance patterns and watershed characteristics and their relationships with water quality.

Overview of county forest land certification programs in Minnesota – Gene Merriam and MACLC presenter. Gene Merriam will introduce a presenter from the Minnesota Association of County Land Commissioners (either our own Greg Bernu, Carlton County Land Commissioner, or one of his colleagues), who will describe the history, current status and potential future direction of county forest land certification programs in Minnesota.

*Denotes action item